

**DRAFT 7-1-03**

Docket No. DEP0546

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Serhan et al. Group Art Unit: 3732  
Serial No.: 09/822,126 Examiner: Manahan, Todd E.  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
Title: Intervertebral Connection System

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Karen Day, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_(signature)  
Karen Day

\_\_\_\_\_(date)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 21, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-captioned patent application and entry of the below amendments in view of the following amendment and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins at page 2 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Abstract** is reflected on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin at page 8 of this paper.

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GROUP 3700

**TO:** Examiner Todd E. Manahan  
**TO FAX NO.:** 703-308-2708

**FROM:** Thomas M. DiMauro  
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**DATE:** 7/21/2003  
**RE:** DEP0546

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